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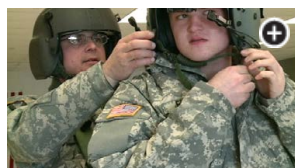


Son of National Guardsman gets b-day wish of helicopter flight

Posted: Feb 26, 2014 6:22 PM CST

Updated: Feb 27, 2014 11:49 AM CST

Written by Nikki Newbrough, Multimedia Journalist - bio | email



WATERLOO (KWWL) - All of Brandin Frey's life, he's wanted to join the military and fly a Black Hawk helicopter like his dad.

On Wednesday, Staff Sergeant James Frey and his wife Courtney waited patiently for their son Brandin to make his way to the Army Aviation Support Facility in Waterloo to do just that.

"From when he was about five years old, he started asking me, 'When do I get to fly on this?' and I said 'Well son, as soon as you sign on the dotted line you can go on a ride in these,'" said James Frey.

That's exactly what Brandin did. After he turned 17, Brandin joined the Iowa Army National Guard.

"He came home and said, 'OK, I want my ride now,'" said Frey.

So for his 18th birthday, Brandin's parents set him up to fly with the Iowa National Guard. But this was more than a helicopter ride.

"I would think of no greater gift, for how hard he's worked, then to let him go up and fly his first flight with his father," said Courtney Frey.

After years of being the "man of the house" while his dad was on deployment twice to Iraq and once to Kuwait, his parents hope this is a birthday he will never forget.

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"I've been waiting for a really long time to get a flight, and this is a path I want to go for my future," Brandin Frey said. "This is a great step in following my dream that I always had."

After graduating from Aplington-Parkersburg High School, Brandin will head to Fort Eustis, Va., for more military training. He then plans to study engineering at Iowa State University.

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UPDATE: Sally Mason to continue on as U. of Iowa president 📺

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 4:43 PM CST

Sally Mason will continue on as the University of Iowa's president after a tense Board of Regents meeting regarding Mason's latest comments on sexual assault and ongoing communication issues between her and Regents members.

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UPDATE: Colorado murder suspect won't leave Cedar Rapids

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 12:41 PM CST

An Iowa City woman has refused extradition to Colorado to face a murder charge.

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Former Mystique employee accused of stealing \$20,000

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 12:36 PM CST

A former Mystique Casino employee is accused of stealing more than \$20,000 worth of customer rewards points.

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State won't release Juvenile Home abuse video to public

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 12:32 PM CST

The Iowa Public Information Board has voted against the release of a video that officials say shows a former state worker physically abusing a 17-year-old girl at the now-closed Iowa Juvenile Home.

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Iowa City groups discuss ID proposal for undocumented residents

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 12:21 PM CST

Supporters are meeting to discuss a plan in Iowa City to provide municipal identification cards to residents who are in the country illegally and others who lack documentation.

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USDA to be in Dyersville on northeast Iowa tour

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 11:33 AM CST

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Deputy Secretary for Rural Development Doug O'Brien will stop in Dyersville Friday as part of his tour across northeast Iowa.

[More >>](#)

Iowa coaching legend Hayden Fry turns 85

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 11:12 AM CST

He's famous for one-liners, a classic pair of shades and revitalizing the University of Iowa football program -- and on Friday, Iowa coaching legend Hayden Fry celebrates his 85th birthday.
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U. of Iowa's Sally Mason shares own sexual assault story 

Updated: Feb 28, 2014 10:50 AM CST

The ongoing debate on how best to prevent and deal with sexual assaults heard a surprising new perspective in Iowa City.
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Dubuque Theater offers evening of mystery, illusion

Updated: Feb 27, 2014 10:09 PM CST

The Bell Tower Theater in Dubuque is offering an intimate evening of mystery and illusion with magician P.T. Murphy on Saturday, April 26, 2014.
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Health Plus: Interval Training 

Updated: Feb 27, 2014 9:50 PM CST

When the weather stays cold, it can be challenging to get motivated to work out. You may want to consider jump-starting your exercise regime by taking an interval training class at the Covenant Wellness Center. Sheri Purdy, with Covenant Wellness Center, says the more we work out, the easier our daily tasks will become. Covenant offers RIPT: Resistance Interval Physical Training. It's a powerful fitness class that combines a variety of exercise techniques...designed to push you a little harder. T...
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